

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1        1. A method of distributing vehicle control information, comprising:
  - 2            determining vehicle control information, the vehicle control information being
  - 3            dependent on at least one of: (i) time information, (ii) operator information, and (iii)
  - 4            vehicle information; and
  - 5            transmitting the vehicle control information to a vehicle device.
- 1        2. The method of claim 1, wherein the vehicle control information is associated  
2        with at least one of: (i) an intersection control signal, (ii) a speed limit, (iii) a merge  
3        indication, (iv) a parking regulation, (v) a direction of travel, (vi) location information,  
4        (vii) an allowable vehicle action, and (viii) a prohibited vehicle action.
- 1        3. The method of claim 1, wherein the vehicle control information is dependent  
2        on time information, and the time information is associated with at least one of: (i) a time  
3        of day, (ii) a day of week, and (iii) a date.
- 1        4. The method of claim 1, wherein the vehicle control information is dependent  
2        on operator information, and the operator information is associated with at least one of:  
3        (i) an operator identifier, (ii) an operator category, (iii) an operator age, (iv) an operator  
4        license, (v) insurance information, and (vi) subscription information.
- 1        5. The method of claim 1, wherein the vehicle control information is dependent  
2        on operator information, and the operator information is associated with at least one of:  
3        (i) an operator preference, (ii) an indication type, (iii) a display location, (iv) an  
4        indication duration, and (v) a threshold level.

1           6. The method of claim 1, wherein the vehicle control information is dependent  
2       on vehicle information, and the vehicle information is associated with at least one of: (i) a  
3       vehicle identifier, (ii) a vehicle category, (iii) a vehicle weight, (iv) a vehicle height, and  
4       (v) item information associated with the vehicle.

1           7. The method of claim 1, wherein said transmitting is performed at least one of:  
2       (i) periodically, (ii) when communication with the vehicle device is possible, (iii) based  
3       on a location of the vehicle device, and (iv) upon a change in vehicle control information.

1           8. The method of claim 1, wherein said transmitting is performed in response to a  
2       request received from the vehicle device.

1           9. The method of claim 8, wherein the vehicle control information is determined  
2       based on the request.

1           10. The method of claim 8, wherein the request indicates a direction of vehicle  
2       travel.

1           11. The method of claim 1, wherein the vehicle control information includes a  
2       plurality of vehicle control values and associated rules.

1           12. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2       transmitting the vehicle control information to another vehicle device.

1           13. The method of claim 1, further comprising at least one of: (i) transmitting a  
2       request to the vehicle device, and (ii) receiving a confirmation from the vehicle device.

- 1        14. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2            receiving the vehicle control information from a central controller.
- 1        15. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2            transmitting location information associated with the vehicle control information.
- 1        16. The method of claim 1, wherein said transmitting is performed via at least  
2        one of: (i) a wireless communication device, (ii) a Bluetooth device, (iii) an Internet  
3        device, (iv) a telephone device, (v) a vehicle device, (vi) a portable computing device,  
4        (vii) a personal digital assistant, and (viii) a pager.
- 1        17. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2            storing the vehicle control information.
- 1        18. A computer-implemented method of distributing automobile control  
2        information, comprising:  
3            determining intersection control information; and  
4            transmitting the intersection control information to an automobile device.
- 1        19. An information controller, comprising:  
2            a processor; and  
3            a storage device in communication with said processor and storing instructions  
4            adapted to be executed by said processor to:

5                   determine vehicle control information, the vehicle control information  
6                   being dependent on at least one of: (i) time information, (ii) operator information,  
7                   and (iii) vehicle information, and  
8                   transmit the vehicle control information to a vehicle device.

1                   20. The information controller of claim 19, wherein said storage device further  
2                   stores an information controller database.

1                   21. The information controller of claim 19, further comprising:  
2                   a communication device coupled to said processor and adapted to communicate  
3                   with at least one of: (i) the vehicle device, (ii) a central controller, (iii) a payment device,  
4                   (iv) a third-party device, and (v) another vehicle device.

1                   22. The information controller of claim 19, further comprising:  
2                   a back-up power source.

1                   23. A medium storing instructions adapted to be executed by a processor to  
2                   perform a method of distributing vehicle control information, said method comprising:  
3                   determining vehicle control information, the vehicle control information being  
4                   dependent on at least one of: (i) time information, (ii) operator information, and (iii)  
5                   vehicle information; and  
6                   transmitting the vehicle control information to a vehicle device.

1           24. A method of distributing vehicle control information, comprising:  
2           receiving vehicle control information at a vehicle device, the vehicle control  
3           information being dependent on at least one of: (i) time information, (ii) operator  
4           information, and (iii) vehicle information; and  
5           arranging for the vehicle control information to be provided to an operator.

1           25. The method of claim 24, wherein said arranging is further based on location  
2           information.

1           26. The method of claim 24, wherein said arranging comprises providing at least  
2           one of: (i) text information, (ii) image information, (iii) audio information, (iv) dashboard  
3           information, and (v) head up display information.

1           27. The method of claim 24, further comprising:  
2           comparing vehicle operation with the vehicle control information; and  
3           providing an alert to the operator based on said comparing.

1           28. The method of claim 24, further comprising:  
2           arranging for a vehicle to operate in accordance with the vehicle control  
3           information.

1           29. The method of claim 24, further comprising:  
2           determining operator information.

1

1       30. The method of claim 29, further comprising:  
2                   transmitting the operator information to an information controller in a request.

1       31. The method of claim 29, wherein said arranging comprises:  
2                   arranging for the vehicle control information to be provided in accordance with  
3                   the operator information.

1       32. The method of claim 29, wherein said determining is associated with at least  
2                   one of: (i) an operator identifier, (ii) a vehicle key, (iii) an operator license, and (iv) a  
3                   biometric identification.

1       33. The method of claim 24, wherein the vehicle control information is  
2                   associated with at least one of: (i) an intersection control signal, (ii) a speed limit, (iii)  
3                   vehicle merge information, (iv) a parking regulation, (v) a direction of travel, (vi)  
4                   location information, (vii) an allowable vehicle action, and (viii) a prohibited vehicle  
5                   action.

1       34. The method of claim 24, wherein the vehicle control information is  
2                   dependent on time information, and the time information is associated with at least one  
3                   of: (i) a time of day, (ii) a day of week, and (iii) a date.

1       35. The method of claim 24, wherein the vehicle control information is  
2                   dependent on operator information, and the operator information is associated with at  
3                   least one of: (i) an operator identifier, (ii) an operator category, (iii) an operator age, (iv)  
4                   an operator license, (v) insurance information, and (vi) subscription information.

1        36. The method of claim 24, wherein the vehicle control information is  
2        dependent on operator information, and the operator information is associated with at  
3        least one of: (i) an operator preference, (ii) an indication type, (iii) a display location, (iv)  
4        an indication duration, and (v) a threshold level.

1        37. The method of claim 24, wherein the vehicle control information is  
2        dependent on vehicle information, and the vehicle information is associated with at least  
3        one of: (i) a vehicle identifier, (ii) a vehicle category, (iii) a vehicle weight, (iv) a vehicle  
4        height, and (v) item information associated with the vehicle.

1        38. The method of claim 24, wherein said receiving is performed at least one of:  
2        (i) periodically, (ii) when communication with an information controller is possible, (iii)  
3        based on a location of the vehicle device, and (iv) upon a change in vehicle control  
4        information.

1        39. The method of claim 24, further comprising at least one of: (i) transmitting a  
2        request to an information controller, (ii) receiving a request from an information  
3        controller, and (iii) transmitting a confirmation to an information controller.

1        40. The method of claim 24, wherein the vehicle control information includes a  
2        plurality of vehicle control values and associated rules.

1        41. The method of claim 24, further comprising:  
2        transmitting the vehicle control information to at least one of: (i) another vehicle  
3        device, and (ii) another operator.

1           42. The method of claim 24, wherein said receiving is performed via at least one  
2       of: (i) a wireless communication device, (ii) a Bluetooth device, (iii) an Internet device,  
3       (iv) a telephone device, (v) a vehicle device, (vi) a portable computing device, (vii) a  
4       personal digital assistant, and (viii) a pager.

1           43. The method of claim 24, further comprising:  
2       storing the vehicle control information.

1           44. A vehicle device, comprising:  
2       a processor; and  
3       a storage device in communication with said processor and storing instructions  
4       adapted to be executed by said processor to:  
5           receive vehicle control information, the vehicle control information being  
6       dependent on at least one of: (i) time information, (ii) operator information, and  
7       (iii) vehicle information; and  
8           arrange for the vehicle control information to be provided to an operator.

1           45. The vehicle device of claim 44, wherein said storage device further stores a  
2       vehicle device database.

1           46. The vehicle device of claim 44, further comprising:  
2       a communication device coupled to said processor and adapted to communicate  
3       with at least one of: (i) another vehicle device, (ii) an information controller, (iii) a  
4       payment device, and (iv) a third-party device.

1

1           47. The vehicle device of claim 44, further comprising:  
2           an input device coupled to said processor and adapted to receive information from  
3           the operator; and  
4           an output device coupled to said processor and adapted to provide information to  
5           the operator.

1           48. A medium storing instructions adapted to be executed by a processor to  
2           perform a method of distributing vehicle control information, said method comprising:  
3           receiving vehicle control information at a vehicle device, the vehicle control  
4           information being dependent on at least one of: (i) time information, (ii) operator  
5           information, and (iii) vehicle information; and  
6           arranging for the vehicle control information to be provided to an operator.

1           49. A computer-implemented method of distributing automobile control  
2           information, comprising:  
3           receiving intersection control information at an automobile device; and  
4           arranging for the intersection control information to be provided to an operator.

1           50. A method of distributing vehicle control information, comprising:  
2           determining time-dependent vehicle control information; and  
3           transmitting the time-dependent vehicle control information to a vehicle device.

1           51. The method of claim 50, wherein the time-dependent vehicle control  
2           information is associated with a school zone.

1           52. A method of distributing vehicle control information, comprising:  
2           determining operator-dependent vehicle control information; and  
3           transmitting the operator-dependent vehicle control information to a vehicle  
4           device.

1           53. The method of claim 52, wherein the operator-dependent vehicle control  
2           information comprises at least one of: (i) traffic information, (ii) detour information, and  
3           (iii) weather information.

1           54. A method of distributing supplemental vehicle information, comprising:  
2           determining supplemental vehicle information; and  
3           transmitting the supplemental vehicle information to a vehicle device.

1           55. The method of claim 54, wherein the supplemental vehicle information  
2           comprises at least one of: (i) advertising information, and (ii) tour information.

1           56. The method of claim 54, further comprising:  
2           arranging for payment to be exchanged based on the supplemental vehicle  
3           information.

1           57. The method of claim 54, wherein said arranging comprises:  
2           arranging for an operator of a vehicle to provide payment in exchange for  
3           receiving the supplemental information.

1        58. The method of claim 54, wherein said arranging comprises:  
2                arranging for an operator of a vehicle to receive payment in exchange for  
3                receiving the supplemental information.

1        59. The method of claim 54, wherein said arranging is associated with at least  
2        one of: (i) a monetary amount, (ii) a subscription amount, (iii) a credit card account, (iv) a  
3        debit card account, (v) a bank account, (vi) a digital payment protocol, and (vii) a non-  
4        monetary amount.

1        60. The method of claim 54, wherein the supplemental vehicle information is  
2        dependent on at least one of: (i) time information, (ii) operator information, and (iii)  
3        vehicle information.

101-069-1001